

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

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1. A decorative jewelry item, comprising:
 - a hollow base member having a decorative top;
 - a cap with an opening therein; and
 - a cap attachment arrangement for attaching said cap to said hollow base member with at least a portion of said decorative top being viewable through said cap opening.
 2. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said base member decorative top is fashioned to exhibit an integral decorative exterior surface which is viewable through said cap opening.
 3. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said decorative top comprises:
 - a top surface of said hollow base member; and
 - a decorative object configured and sized in relation to said base member to be placed on said top surface.
 4. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 3, wherein:
 - said cap has a top surface; and
 - said decorative object is fixed on said base member below said cap top surface.
 5. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 3, wherein:
 - said cap has a top surface; and
 - said decorative object is fixed on said base member and projects through said cap opening.
 6. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 5, wherein said decorative object extends above said cap top surface.
 7. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 3, wherein:
 - at least one of said base top surface and said cap has a recess therein; and

said cap attaching arrangement fixes said cap to said base member whereby said decorative object is loosely captured between said base member and said cap and is free to move within said recess.

8. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said cap is fixed to said base member by a process selected from the group consisting of soldering, swaging, bending of prongs, applying of adhesive, and welding including laser welding.

9. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 4, wherein said cap top surface exhibits an integral decorative exterior surface.

10. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said base member has a sidewall extending downwardly from said decorative top, said sidewall having at least one cutout therein; and

said cap attachment arrangement comprises at least one prong depending downwardly from said cap, said prong adapted to be bent into said cutout when said cap is placed over said decorative top.

11. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 10, wherein:

said sidewall of said base member has at least one window opening to the interior of said hollow base member; and

said at least one cutout is formed at the top of said at least one window.

12. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 11, wherein:

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said base member sidewall has a plurality of windows formed therein and cutouts formed in selected ones of said windows; and

said cap comprises a plurality of prongs equal in number to the number of cutouts in said windows.

13. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the number of windows is greater than the number of prongs and cutouts.

14. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, formed integrally with a like decorative jewelry item in a manner to align said decorative tops generally in a common plane, wherein:

said base member has a sidewall extending downwardly from said decorative top, said sidewall having at least one window formed therein leading to the interior of said hollow base member; and

said base member comprises a connector element for connecting said decorative jewelry item to a like decorative integral jewelry item by bending said connector element of one decorative jewelry item after passing through a sidewall window in an adjacent decorative jewelry item.

15. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said base member has a sidewall extending downwardly from said decorative top; and

said cap attachment arrangement is implemented by the provision on said cap of a downwardly directed peripheral wall, said cap wall covering a relatively small top portion of said base member sidewall when said cap is placed over said decorative top.

16. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 15, wherein said cap is fixed to said base member, after being placed over said decorative top, by a process selected from

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the group consisting of soldering, swaging, bending of prongs, applying of adhesive, and welding including laser welding.

17. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said base member has a sidewall extending downwardly from said decorative top and encompassing the interior of said hollow base member;

said base member decorative top has at least one hole therein leading downwardly into the interior of said hollow base member; and

said cap attachment arrangement comprises at least one prong depending downwardly from said cap, said prong adapted to be passed through said at least one hole in said decorative top and bent over within the interior of said hollow base member when said cap is placed over said decorative top.

18. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 17, wherein:

said base member decorative top has a plurality of holes formed therein; and

said cap comprises a plurality of prongs equal in number to the number of holes in said decorative top.

19. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said base member top is made decorative by performing at least one of a number of surface preparation processes on at least a portion of said sidewall, said surface preparation processes including diamond cutting, hole forming, embossing, engraving, lettering, forming line patterns, texturing, plating, coloring, etching, scoring, knurling, serrating, coating, painting, embossing, engraving, and shaping.

20. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 10, wherein said base member sidewall is made decorative by performing at least one of a number of surface preparation

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processes on at least a portion of said sidewall, said surface preparation processes including diamond cutting, hole forming, embossing, engraving, lettering, forming line patterns, texturing, plating, coloring, etching, scoring, knurling, serrating, coating, painting, embossing, engraving, and shaping.

21. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said cap has a top surface; and

said cap top surface is made decorative by performing at least one of a number of surface preparation processes on at least a portion of said cap top surface, said surface preparation processes including diamond cutting, hole forming, embossing, engraving, lettering, forming line patterns, texturing, plating, coloring, etching, scoring, knurling, serrating, coating, painting, embossing, engraving, and shaping.

22. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said cap has a peripheral edge; and

said cap edge is made decorative by performing at least one of a number of surface preparation processes on at least a portion of said cap edge, said surface preparation processes including diamond cutting, hole forming, embossing, engraving, lettering, forming line patterns, texturing, plating, coloring, etching, scoring, knurling, serrating, coating, painting, embossing, engraving, and shaping.

23. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 3, wherein:

said decorative object is plate-shaped and has an upper decorative surface.

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24. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said base member comprises a linking arrangement for linking said decorative jewelry item to a like decorative jewelry item.

25. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said base member has a stepped top outside peripheral surface comprising a vertical wall portion and a horizontal step portion.

26. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 25, wherein:

said horizontal step portion has an irregular exposed surface.

27. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said cap has a planar top surface.

28. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said cap has a generally conical top surface.

29. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said base member is segmented, defining a plurality of base member segments each having a decorative top, fixedly connected together side-by-side;

said cap is segmented, defining a like plurality of cap segments each having an opening therein, fixedly connected together side-by-side; and

said cap attachment means is adapted to attach said segmented cap to said segmented base member with at least a

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portion of each said decorative top being viewable through said cap openings.

30. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 29, wherein:

said base member segments are substantially identical to one another in geometrical shape; and

said cap segments are of the same geometrical shape as the corresponding ones of said base member segments.

31. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 29, wherein:

said base member segments are substantially identical to one another in geometrical shape; and

at least one of said cap segments is of a geometrical shape different than that or its corresponding base member segment.

32. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 31, wherein:

each of said base member segments is circular in horizontal cross section;

each of said decorative tops has a diamond cut exposed surface;

one of said cap segments has a circular outer periphery and a circular opening therein; and

another of said cap segments has a circular outer periphery and a heart shaped opening therein.

33. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said base member has a sidewall extending downwardly from said decorative top, said sidewall having at least one window opening therein; and

said cap attachment arrangement comprises at least one prong depending downwardly from said cap, said prong adapted

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to be bent into said window opening when said cap is placed over said decorative top.

34. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 33, wherein:

said sidewall of said base member has at least one channel formed therein, leading from said decorative top to said window opening; and

said at least one prong extends from a bottom surface of said cap, is contained within said channel, and is bent over inwardly of said base member through said window opening, when said cap is placed over said decorative top.

35. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 34, wherein said decorative top and said cap have identical outer peripheral surfaces.

36. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 17, wherein said holes in said decorative top, and said prongs, are rectangular in cross section.

37. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said decorative top has a raised decorative portion protruding into said cap opening.

38. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 37, wherein said raised decorative portion protrudes through said cap opening to a position above said cap.

39. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 38, wherein:

said decorative top comprises a top surface of said hollow base member; and

said raised decorative portion is a separate decorative object fixed to said top surface.

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40. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 7, wherein:

said base top surface is substantially planar; and
said cap has a cupped bottom to accommodate said decorative object loosely between said cap and said base member top surface.

41. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said hollow base member is made from a first material of a first color; and

said cap is made from a second material of a different color.

42. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said cap has a top surface configuration selected from the group of surface configurations consisting of planar, concave, convex, conical, concave-conical, and convex-conical.

43. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 34, wherein:

said base member sidewall has a plurality of windows formed therein and a plurality of channels leading from said decorative top to selected ones of said windows;

said cap comprises a plurality of prongs equal in number to the number of channels in said sidewall; and

the number of windows is at least as great as the number of prongs and channels.

44. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 29, wherein:

said decorative tops of said plurality of base member segments are not alike, each said decorative top having its own characteristic shape, design, and visual appearance.

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45. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 29, wherein:

said cap segments are not alike, each said cap having a top surface exhibiting its own characteristic shape, design, and visual appearance.

46. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 29, wherein:

said cap segments are not alike, each said cap having a peripheral side surface exhibiting its own characteristic shape, design, and visual appearance.

47. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 29, wherein:

said cap segments are not alike, each said cap having an opening with its own shape, design, and visual appearance.

48. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 47, wherein each of said cap openings has a shape and configuration selected from the group consisting of circular, square, heart-shaped, cross-shaped, scalloped, star-shaped, serrated, knurled, undulated, rippled, clover leaf shaped, triangular, and polygonal.

49. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 48, wherein at least one of said caps has a filagree-like ornamentation extending into its opening.

50. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 3, wherein:

said base member is segmented, defining a plurality of base member segments each having an independent decorative top, fixedly connected together side-by-side;

said cap is segmented, defining a like plurality of cap segments each having an opening therein, fixedly connected together side-by-side; and

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said cap attachment means is adapted to attach said segmented cap to said segmented base member with at least a portion of each said decorative top being viewable through said cap openings.

51. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 50, wherein said independent decorative tops comprise independent decorative objects having different visual appearances.

52. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 51, wherein said independent decorative objects have different shapes selected from the group consisting of circular, square, heart-shaped, cross-shaped, scalloped, star-shaped, undulated, rippled, clover leaf shaped, triangular, and polygonal.

53. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said cap has an outer periphery, an inner periphery, and a relatively narrow width between said outer and inner peripheries, such that a portion of said decorative top is exposed outside said cap outer periphery.

54. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 53, wherein:

a portion of said decorative top exposed through said cap opening has a different visual appearance than a portion of said decorative top exposed outside said cap outer periphery.

55. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 54, wherein:

said decorative top portion exposed through said cap opening has a diamond cut surface; and

said decorative top portion exposed outside said cap outer periphery has a surface finish selected from the group consisting of faceted, knurled, smooth, shiny, colored,

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frosted, formed with diffraction gratings, formed with applied filigree patterns, random markings, organized markings, and textured.

56. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 54, wherein said cap outer periphery has a surface finish selected from the group consisting of faceted, knurled, smooth, shiny, colored, frosted, formed with diffraction gratings, formed with applied filigree patterns, random markings, organized markings, and textured.

57. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 29, wherein:

each said cap has an inner periphery, a connected outer periphery, and a relatively narrow width between said outer and inner peripheries, such that a portion of each said decorative top is exposed outside said cap outer periphery.

58. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 57, wherein:

a portion of each said decorative top that is exposed through a respective cap opening has a different visual appearance than a portion of said decorative top exposed outside said cap outer periphery.

59. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 58, wherein:

each said decorative top portion exposed through said cap opening has a diamond cut surface; and

each said decorative top portion exposed outside said cap outer periphery has a surface finish selected from the group consisting of faceted, knurled, smooth, shiny, colored, frosted, formed with diffraction gratings, formed with applied filigree patterns, random markings, organized markings, and textured.

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60. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 58, wherein said connected outer periphery of said cap has a surface finish selected from the group consisting of faceted, knurled, smooth, shiny, colored, frosted, formed with diffraction gratings, formed with applied filigree patterns, random markings, organized markings, and textured.

61. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 57, wherein:

each said base member decorative top comprises a top surface of said hollow base member, and a decorative object configured and sized in relation to said base member and said cap to be placed on said top surface and project through said cap opening.

62. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said cap has a stepped top outside peripheral surface comprising a vertical wall portion and a horizontal step portion.

63. A piece of jewelry with a designed structure including at least one recess for receiving the decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1.

64. The piece of jewelry as claimed in Claim 63 wherein said decorative top comprises:

a top surface of said hollow base member; and
a decorative object configured and sized in relation to said base member to be placed on said top surface.

65. The piece of jewelry as claimed in Claim 63 wherein said recess and said decorative top are circular.

66. The piece of jewelry as claimed in Claim 63 wherein said recess and said decorative top are heart shaped.

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67. The piece of jewelry as claimed in Claim 63 manufactured as a decorative jewelry piece selected from the group consisting of a necklace, a bracelet, a ring, a pendant, a broach, and an earring.

68. A piece of jewelry with a designed structure, comprising:
an integrally formed decorative portion having a decorative top;

a cap with an opening therein; and

a cap attachment arrangement for attaching said cap to said decorative portion of said piece of jewelry with at least a portion of said decorative top being viewable through said cap opening.

69. The piece of jewelry as claimed in Claim 68, wherein said decorative top is fashioned to exhibit an integral decorative exterior surface which is viewable through said cap opening.

70. The piece of jewelry as claimed in Claim 68, wherein said decorative top comprises:

a top surface of said decorative portion; and

a decorative object configured and sized in relation to said decorative portion to be placed on said top surface beneath said cap.

71. The piece of jewelry as claimed in Claim 68 manufactured as a decorative jewelry piece selected from the group consisting of a necklace, a bracelet, a ring, a pendant, a broach, and an earring.

72. A method for constructing a decorative jewelry item, comprising:

providing a base member having a hollow interior and a decorative top;

providing a cap with an opening therein; and

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attaching said cap to said hollow base member with at least a portion of said decorative top being viewable through said cap opening.

73. The method as claimed in Claim 72, wherein said decorative top comprises a top surface of said hollow base member, and said step of providing a base member includes providing a decorative object configured and sized in relation to said base member to be placed and fit on said top surface and be captured between said base member top surface and said cap.

74. The method as claimed in Claim 73, wherein said cap has a top surface, and said method comprises fixing said decorative object on said base member below said cap top surface.

75. The method as claimed in Claim 73, wherein said cap has a top surface, and said method comprises, prior to fixing said decorative object on said base member:

positioning said cap above said hollow base member and aligning said cap concentric with said decorative object;

bringing said cap and base member together while guiding said decorative object to project through said cap opening.

76. The method as claimed in Claim 75, wherein said step of providing a decorative object comprises providing a decorative object of a thickness greater than the thickness of said cap, whereby, when said cap is fixed on said base member, said decorative object extends above said cap.

77. The method as claimed in Claim 73, wherein at least one of said base top surface and said cap has a recess therein; and

said step of attaching fixes said cap to said base member with said decorative object loosely captured between said base member and said cap, whereby said decorative object is free to move within said recess.

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78. The method as claimed in Claim 72, wherein said cap is fixed to said base member by a process selected from the group consisting of soldering, swaging, bending of prongs, applying of adhesive, and welding including laser welding.

79. The method as claimed in Claim 72, wherein said step of providing a base member includes providing said base member with an integral decorative exterior surface.

80. The method as claimed in Claim 72, comprising the step of joining a decorative jewelry item made by said method integrally with a like decorative jewelry item in a manner to align said decorative tops generally in a common plane.

81. The method as claimed in Claim 72, wherein said base member is provided with a sidewall extending downwardly from said decorative top, said cap is provided with a downwardly directed peripheral wall, and said method comprises:

attaching said cap to said base member by fitting said cap wall over the top of said base member, covering a relatively small top portion of said base member sidewall when said cap is placed over said decorative top; and

affixing said cap to said base member by a process selected from the group consisting soldering, swaging, bending of prongs, applying of adhesive, and welding including laser welding.

82. The method as claimed in Claim 72, wherein:

said base member has a sidewall extending downwardly from said decorative top and encompassing the interior of said hollow base member, said cap comprises at least one prong depending downwardly from said cap, said base member decorative top has at least one hole therein leading downwardly into the interior of said hollow base member, and said attaching step includes:

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passing said prong through said at least one hole in said decorative top; and

bending said prong over within the interior of said hollow base member after said cap is placed over said decorative top.

83. The method as claimed in Claim 72, wherein said base member top is made decorative by performing at least one of a number of surface preparation processes on at least a portion of said sidewall, said surface preparation processes including diamond cutting, hole forming, embossing, engraving, lettering, forming line patterns, texturing, plating, coloring, etching, scoring, knurling, serrating, coating, painting, embossing, engraving, and shaping.

84. The method as claimed in Claim 72, wherein said base member has a sidewall depending downwardly from said decorative top, and said sidewall is made decorative by performing at least one of a number of surface preparation processes on at least a portion of said sidewall, said surface preparation processes including diamond cutting, hole forming, embossing, engraving, lettering, forming line patterns, texturing, plating, coloring, etching, scoring, knurling, serrating, coating, painting, embossing, engraving, and shaping.

85. The method as claimed in Claim 72, wherein said cap has a top surface, and said cap top surface is made decorative by performing at least one of a number of surface preparation processes on at least a portion of said cap top surface, said surface preparation processes including diamond cutting, hole forming, embossing, engraving, lettering, forming line patterns, texturing, plating, coloring, etching, scoring, knurling, serrating, coating, painting, embossing, engraving, and shaping.

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86. The method as claimed in Claim 72, wherein said base member is segmented, defining a plurality of base member segments each having a decorative top, fixedly connected together side-by-side, said cap is segmented, defining a like plurality of cap segments each having an opening therein, fixedly connected together side-by-side, and said attaching step includes attaching said segmented cap to said segmented base member with at least a portion of each said decorative top being viewable through said cap openings.

87. The method as claimed in Claim 72, wherein said base member comprises a sidewall downwardly depending from said decorative top, said sidewall having at least one window opening therein and at least one channel leading from said decorative top to said window opening, said cap has at least one prong extending from a bottom surface of said cap, and said attaching step includes:

fitting said cap over the top of said base member;
bringing said cap into contact with said base member while guiding said prong through said sidewall channel; and
bending said prong over inwardly of said base member through said window opening.

88. The method as claimed in Claim 72, wherein:

said hollow base member is made from a first material of a first color; and

said cap is made from a second material of a different color.

89. The method as claimed in Claim 72, comprising:

providing a piece of jewelry having a designed structure with at least one recess therein for receiving the decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1;

inserting said decorative jewelry item into said recess;
and

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fixing said decorative jewelry item in said recess by a process selected from the group consisting soldering, swaging, bending of prongs, applying of adhesive, and welding including laser welding.

90. A decorative jewelry item, comprising:

a base member having a hollow interior, a top with an opening therein leading to said hollow interior, a bottom, and a sidewall extending from said top to said bottom, said sidewall having an opening therein leading to said hollow interior;

a decorative insert configured and sized in relation to said base member to be inserted within said hollow interior through said sidewall opening and viewable through said top opening; and

a retainer for retaining said decorative insert within said base member hollow interior.

91. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 90, comprising:

a support member fixed to said base member within said hollow interior; and wherein

said decorative insert is captured within said base member between said base member top and said support member.

92. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 91, wherein said decorative insert is fixed to said support member within said base member.

93. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 91, wherein said decorative insert is loosely captured between said base member top and said support member.

94. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 90, wherein:

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said base member comprises a tab bendable to a first position in which said sidewall opening is not blocked, and bendable to a second position in which said sidewall opening is blocked, whereby said tab is in said first position to permit placement of said insert member within said base member through said sidewall opening, and said tab is bent to said second position after said insert member is contained within said base member interior.

95. A method for constructing a decorative jewelry item, comprising:

providing a base member having a hollow interior, a top with an opening therein leading to said hollow interior, a bottom, and a sidewall extending from said top to said bottom, said sidewall having an opening therein leading to said hollow interior;

providing a decorative insert configured and sized in relation to said base member to be inserted within said hollow interior through said sidewall opening and viewable through said base member top opening; and

placing said decorative insert into said hollow base member through said sidewall opening with at least a portion of said decorative insert being viewable through said base member top opening.

96. The method as claimed in Claim 95, wherein:

said jewelry item comprises a support member fixed to the interior of said base member; and

said step of placing includes inserting said decorative insert into said sidewall opening between said base member top and said support member.

97. The method as claimed in Claim 96, wherein:

said base member comprises a tab having a first position in which said sidewall opening is not blocked to permit placement of said insert member within said base member

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through said sidewall opening, and having a second position in which said sidewall opening is blocked; and

said method includes the further step of bending said tab to said second position after said insert member is contained within said base member interior.

98. The method as claimed in Claim 97, wherein said step of placing includes placing said decorative insert into said base member with said decorative insert loosely captured between said base member top and said support member, whereby said decorative insert is free to have limited movement within said base member.

99. The method as claimed in Claim 97, wherein said step of placing includes placing said decorative insert into said base member and fixing said decorative insert to said support member.

100. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said base member has a hollow interior;

said decorative top comprises a top surface with an opening therein leading to said hollow interior, and a precious stone configured and sized in relation to said base member to be placed partially within said top surface opening while being prevented from falling through said top surface opening by said top surface;

at least one of said base top surface and said cap has a recess therein;

said cap attaching arrangement fixes said cap to said base member whereby said decorative object is loosely captured between said base member and said cap and is free to move within said recess.

101. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 100, wherein said base member has a depth sufficient to prevent the

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bottom of said precious stone from extending below said base member.

102. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 101, wherein:

said base member has a sidewall extending downwardly from said decorative top, said sidewall having a plurality of open windows formed therein; and

said top surface opening has an inner peripheral edge and a plurality of tabs projecting inwardly from said peripheral edge, said tabs being of a length sufficient to prevent said precious stone from falling through said top surface opening;

whereby said precious stone is supported by said tabs with minimal blockage of light entering said sidewall windows and illuminating said precious stone from beneath.

103. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 7, wherein:

said base member top surface extends across the interior of said base member;

said base member top surface has an upwardly projecting bump positioned thereon; and

said decorative object has a bottom which rests on said bump, whereby said loosely captured decorative object teeters on said bump functioning as a fulcrum.

104. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 103, wherein said decorative object bottom has a depression therein in alignment with, and sized to receive, said upwardly projecting bump positioned on said base member top surface.

105. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 7, wherein:

said base member top surface extends across the interior of said base member; and

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said decorative object has a bottom with a downwardly projecting bump positioned thereon, whereby said loosely captured decorative object teeters on said bump functioning as a fulcrum.

106. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 105, wherein said base member surface has a depression therein in alignment with, and sized to receive, said downwardly projecting bump positioned on said decorative object bottom.

107. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 7, wherein:

said decorative object is rotatably mounted in said recess between said base member and said cap using axially aligned pins resting in, and rotatable in, corresponding notches.

108. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 107, wherein:

said base member has a hollow interior;

said base member top surface has an opening therethrough to said hollow interior, and a pair of oppositely facing side notches formed in said base member top surface, said notches opening laterally into said base member top surface opening;

said decorative object is sized smaller than said base member top surface opening; and

said decorative object has a pair of oppositely located outwardly extending side pins fitting into, and rotatable in, respective ones of said side notches; whereby

said decorative object is free to rotate within said recess about an axis passing through said pins.

109. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 1, wherein: said base member has at least one through hole formed in said decorative top at a location which is covered by said cap and hidden from view.

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110. A decorative jewelry item, comprising:

a base member having a hollow interior, a top with an opening therein leading to said hollow interior, a bottom, and a sidewall extending from said top to said bottom; and

a decorative insert configured and sized in relation to said base member top opening to be inserted, through said top opening, into said hollow interior and positioned below said top;

said decorative insert being fixed within said base member hollow interior with said decorative insert viewable through said top opening.

111. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 110, comprising:

a support member fixed to said base member within said hollow interior; and wherein

said decorative insert is captured within said base member between said base member top and said support member.

112. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 111, wherein said decorative insert is fixed to said support member within said base member by a process selected from the group consisting of applying an adhesive, soldering, welding including laser welding, molecular bonding, swaging, bending, and clamping.

113. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 111, wherein:

said decorative insert comprises a plate-like top and a rear projecting pin;

said support member has a hole therethrough for receiving said pin; and

said pin is fixed to said support member by a process selected from the group consisting of applying an adhesive, soldering, welding including laser welding, molecular bonding, swaging, bending, and clamping.

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114. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 111, wherein:

said decorative insert comprises a plate-like top and a rear projecting pin;

said support member has a hole therethrough for receiving said pin; and

said pin is fixed within said hollow base member by a retainer affixed to said pin below said support member, whereby said pin is slidable, to a limited extent, and rotatable in said insert support member, for an enhanced visual effect.

115. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 112, wherein:

said support member comprises a plate-like member fixed within said base member below said top.

116. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 113, wherein:

said support member comprises a plate-like member fixed within said base member below said top, said plate-like support member having a hole therein through which said pin may pass.

117. The decorative jewelry item as claimed in Claim 110, wherein:

said base member is segmented, and each said segment comprises a hollow interior, a top with an opening therein leading to said hollow interior, a bottom, and a sidewall extending from said top to said bottom; and

ones of said decorative insert, configured and sized in relation to each said segment top opening, are inserted, through said top openings, into said hollow interiors and positioned below said tops;

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said decorative inserts being fixed within respective segment hollow interiors with said decorative inserts viewable through said top openings.

118. A method for constructing a decorative jewelry item, comprising:

providing a base member having a hollow interior, a top with an opening therein leading to said hollow interior, a bottom, and a sidewall extending from said top to said bottom;

providing a decorative insert configured and sized in relation to said base member to be inserted through said top opening and into said hollow interior; and

placing said decorative insert into said hollow base member through said top opening and positioned below said top, whereby said decorative insert is viewable through said top opening.

119. The method as claimed in Claim 118, wherein:

said jewelry item comprises a support member fixed to the interior of said base member; and

said step of placing includes inserting said decorative insert through said top opening between said base member top and said support member.

120. The method as claimed in Claim 119, comprising, after said placing operation:

fixing said decorative insert to said support member within said base member.

121. The method as claimed in Claim 120, wherein:

said provided decorative insert comprises a plate-like top and a rear projecting pin;

said support member is provided with a hole therethrough for receiving said pin; and

said fixing operation includes fixing said pin to said support member by a process selected from the group consisting

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of applying an adhesive, soldering, welding including laser welding, molecular bonding, swaging, bending, and clamping.

122. The method as claimed in Claim 121, wherein:

said provided base member is segmented and has a multiple segmented hollow interior, a top with a multiple segmented opening therein leading to said hollow interior, a bottom, and a sidewall extending from said top to said bottom;

said provided decorative insert is configured and sized in relation to said multiple segmented top opening to be inserted, through said multiple segmented top opening, into said hollow interior and positioned below said top; and

said fixing operation comprises inserting said multiple segmented decorative insert within said hollow interior with each segment of said multiple segmented decorative insert viewable through said top opening.

123. The method as claimed in Claim 122, wherein:

said multiple segmented decorative insert has a plurality of said rear projecting pins, one of said pins located adjacent opposite edges of said multiple segmented decorative insert, such that at least one segment of said multiple segmented decorative insert does not have a rear projecting pin;

said segmented base member has a plurality of insert support members fixed to said base member interior for receiving corresponding ones of said plurality of rear projecting pins; and

said fixing operation comprises fixing each pin to its corresponding insert support member.

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124. A jewelry item comprising:
a base member;
a cap; and
a cap attachment arrangement for attaching said cap
to said base member.
125. A piece of jewelry comprising:
a portion having a top;
a cap with an opening therein; and
a cap attachment arrangement for attaching said cap
to said portion.
126. A method for constructing a decorative jewelry item,
comprising:
attaching a cap to a base member.
127. A jewelry item comprising:
a base member;
an insert; and
a retainer for retaining said insert within said
base member.
128. A method for constructing a jewelry item, comprising:
placing an insert into a base member.
129. A jewelry item comprising:
a base member; and
an insert;
said insert being fixed within said base member.
130. A method for constructing a jewelry item, comprising:
placing an insert into a base member, whereby said
insert is viewable through a top opening.

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